



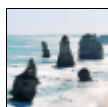
# Australian Bureau of Statistics

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## Summary

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## What's happening in Victoria



#### **What's happening in Victoria**

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### **National Aboriginal & Islander Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) celebrations**

The ABS Victorian Office's Workplace Diversity Working Group, with assistance from John Harding (Indigenous Liaison Officer, ABS Vic), organised a great week of NAIDOC celebrations; aiming to increase awareness of the distinct culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their contribution to modern Australia.

Celebrations commenced on 4 July 2008, with ABS co-hosting the event with the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS). Mr Brian Pink (Australian Statistician, ABS) and Professor Alan Hayes (Director, AIFS) formally opened the event, which was attended by over 60 ABS and AIFS staff. Performances included The Will Shakespeare Traditional Dance Group and jazz singer Liz Cavanagh. It was also an opportunity to sample some bush tucker food - and yes, it did include kangaroo and other unique Australian ingredients!

During NAIDOC week, John also hosted a lunch-time Indigenous Film Festival. It featured films made by, and starring, some brilliant and extremely talented Indigenous artists. Particularly inspiring was John's work capturing the Pitatjanjara community elders' stories. The rest of the films were very entertaining, depicting some light hearted stories, and a couple that had some reaching for the tissues.



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### **National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey community facilitators - A Victorian initiative**

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS) collects information about well-being, social circumstances and outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It is being conducted from August to December 2008, and includes children for the first time. Working collaboratively with the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD), ABS has been able to reduce provider burden by combining a planned DEECD Indigenous survey with the NATSISS. Sample size of the NATSISS in Victoria has also been increased.

As part of the combined effort, the ABS Victorian Office is adopting a unique strategy to promote NATSISS in 2008 using community facilitators. Thirteen Indigenous facilitators have been employed to increase awareness of the survey and promote accurate self-identification by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in Victoria.

Facilitators are members of the Indigenous community who are promoting the survey on

behalf of ABS, using the survey slogan 'NATSISS - it's about you, our community, our future'. Supplied with a promotional DVD, radio advertisement and brochures; the facilitators will participate in community meetings, activities, sporting events and visit schools.

On 16 July 2008, Carl Obst (Regional Director, ABS) and Danny Hobson (Statewide Outcomes for Children, DEECD) welcomed the facilitators to their training day. ABS Victoria provided training to facilitators, including: covering 1994 and 2002 NATSISS surveys, what interviewers would be doing, sampling, the sort of questions to be asked, and ultimately their role.

The intense day finished with a celebration dinner, with facilitators asking ABS staff lots more questions. It gave everyone a chance to get to know each other and have a bit of fun. The facilitators were excited about their task and what the survey could do for their communities.

For more information about the NATSISS Community Facilitator Strategy, please contact Fiona Shalley (03) 9615-7510 or email <victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au> .

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### **ABS submission to Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry**

Carl Obst (Regional Director, ABS) recently appeared before the Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee of the Victorian Parliament, presenting an ABS submission to its Inquiry into Improving Access to Victorian Public Sector Information and Data. In the submission, Carl acknowledged that in recent times a combination of technological developments, increased community desire for participation in decision making, and an awareness of the need for cross-sectional approaches to current policy issues has accelerated demand for information across the community.

Carl promoted improvement and expansion of the National Statistical Service (NSS). A key objective of the NSS is to maximise the use, for statistical purposes, of information available within government administrative systems. 'Securing benefits from the NSS will be best served through partnership and collaboration across jurisdictions,' said Carl.

Carl recognised it was important to resolve issues around individual privacy, which must be protected in order to maintain public trust and confidence in information. The Victorian Government will need to work actively to promote the full range of benefits with the community, and accept the additional and ongoing costs that will be incurred in improving access to information, while working closely with data owners and custodians. Carl called for the inquiry to support development of a nationally consistent framework for privacy legislation.

Carl endorsed consideration of licensing issues by the inquiry, including consideration of the Creative Commons licensing model. There is large potential to increase access and improve discoverability of information as a result of clarifying intellectual property rights. Carl recommended that the Inquiry take account of potential benefits from aligning solutions in this area across Australia and internationally. In summary, Carl noted that generally, ABS views the use of open source approaches and technologies and open standards as a key enabler for supporting discovery, access and use of government information. Here is a link to the complete ABS submission.

For more information about the ABS submission please contact Carl Obst, (03) 9615-7330 or email <victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au> .

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### **Australian Social Trend Seminars in Melbourne**



The ABS Victorian office hosted Social Trends seminars during September 2008, with 280 registrations over two sessions. Seminar slides are available through this link, along with the AST publication. 'Australian Social Trends' (AST) covers the key areas of: population; family and community; health; education and training; work; economic resources; housing; and other areas of social concern like transport and communication.



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## **NatStats08 Conference 19-21 November 2008 Melbourne**



Last chance to register - registration closing soon!

Don't miss your chance to register for the NatStats08 Conference, which will take place at Crown Promenade Hotel, Melbourne from 19 to 21 November 2008. NatStats08 will provide a forum for discussion on key policy and measurement issues in areas such as health, education, Indigenous Australia, social inclusion, measuring Australia's progress, and community indicators; and the themes of water, natural resource management and climate change.

Some 30 speakers, all leaders in their field, will add their voice in concurrent sessions on specific themes. Speakers will include Professor Glyn Davis (Vice Chancellor, University of Melbourne), Mr Enrico Giovannini (Chief Statistician, OECD), Mr Greg Bourne (CEO, World Wildlife Fund, Australia), Dr Martin Parkinson (Secretary, Commonwealth Dept of Climate Change) and Hon. John Lenders (MLC) Treasurer of Victoria. For a full list of confirmed speakers, program and registration information please visit <http://www.nss.gov.au/natstats>.

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## **Outposted ABS Officers to Victorian government departments**

Outpostings have been part of ABS' service provision role to State agencies for about 20 years in Victoria. An outposted ABS officer is one of the best ways for ABS to provide statistical support to Victorian State Government. Outpostings also assist ABS to better understand the needs and strategic environment of State agencies.

An ABS outposting may assist with a specific statistical project or issue, and can occur for periods as short as 3 months. The officer's work could involve assisting with survey and questionnaire design, or locating ABS data and related sources. Increasingly, outpostings have diverse and long-term strategic purposes, and may provide a conduit for complex service requests. In an era when policy makers are placing greater emphasis on acquiring evidence, outpostings that focus on transforming administrative data into statistical outputs can assist in harnessing a new range of data to enhance the decision-making process. ABS outpostings are conducted on a 'fee-for-service' basis.

At present, there are ABS outposted officers located in:

- Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC);
- Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF);
- Department of Primary Industries (DPI);
- Department of Transport (DoT)
- Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD); and,
- Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD).

In September 2008, ABS outpostings were finalised with the Garnaut review on climate change and Department of Justice.

For further information about ABS outpostings contact Marie Apostolou, Director, Statistical Coordination Branch, (03) 9615 7500; or email <[victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au](mailto:victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au)>.

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## **Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey 2006**

The feature article in 'State and Regional Indicators, Victoria, June quarter 2008' focused on a brief history of the Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey (ALLS), and examined the 2006 survey. Some findings for Victoria include:

- There was no statistically significant change in Victorians' document literacy skills between 1996 and 2006.
- Victorians' perceptions of their skill levels differed from skill levels achieved in tests, with the tendency being to overestimate skill level.
- Document literacy and numeracy skill levels tended to decrease with age.
- Victorian males had higher document literacy and numeracy skill levels than females, with greater gender differentiation in numeracy.

The complete article is presented in June quarter 2008 'State and Regional Indicators, Victoria' (cat. no. 1367.2). This publication contains Victorian data on a wide variety of subjects, with some data available down to local government area level.

For further information contact Steve Gelsi on (03) 9615 7590 or email <[victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au](mailto:victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au)>

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## National Regional Profile



The fourth edition of ABS's National Regional Profile (NRP) was released on 28 July 2008. NRP presents data from a variety of ABS and non-ABS sources covering: population characteristics, births and deaths, unemployment, taxable income, wage and salary earners, building approvals, motor vehicle sales, etc; for various types of small regions across all Australia. Data are available for Local Government Area and other geographies. The NRP is intended for analysts interested in the characteristics of regions, and in comparing regions across Australia. Data are presented as a five-year time series, where available.

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### Historical publications loaded to ABS website

ABS is progressively loading past issues of ABS titles, which have been scanned from the original paper versions, to the ABS website. Utilising character recognition software, full-text searching capability within the stored .pdf has been enabled. The scanned versions are available within the statistics portal, in the 'Past and Future Releases' tab of each product. The digitisation of publications is seen as an important step in retaining the history of past data dissemination.

Titles loaded to the website:

- [Year Book, Australia](#) (cat. no. 1301.0)
- [Labour Statistics, Australia](#) and its predecessor [Labour Report](#) (cat. no. 6101.0)
- [Schools, Australia](#) (cat. no. 4221.0)

Titles to be loaded soon:

- 1991 Census of Population and Housing
- 1986 Census of Population and Housing

Other titles currently in the work program include:

- Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)
- Balance of Payments, Australia (cat. no. 5302.0)
- Average Weekly Earnings (cat. no. 6302.0)
- Consumer Price Index (cat. no. 6401.0)
- Research and Experimental Development (cat. no. 8104.0)

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### Outcome from a review of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification

The Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) is used for the collection and dissemination of geographically classified statistics, and has formed the foundation of ABS statistical geography since 1984. ABS intends to replace the current ASGC with the new Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) through an implementation strategy



commencing in 2011. ASGS will be based upon mesh blocks, creating more stable and consistent units than the ASGC. It will be the new basis for publishing the complete range of ABS spatial statistics, and become the essential reference for understanding and interpreting the geographical context of ABS statistics. The ABS anticipates that it will be widely adopted outside ABS to facilitate comparison of spatial statistics. For reference, 'Information Paper: Outcome from The Review of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification, 2008' (1216.0.55.002, released 25/07/2008).

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## **Update on ANZSIC 2006 (industry classification) implementation**

Implementation of the new Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) 2006 is progressing well. A range of ABS collections have been released, or are due to be released, on the new basis by years end 2008. Remaining ABS collections will migrate progressively to the new ANZSIC over the next two years. A few examples of collections moving toward ANZSIC 2006 are cited below, although this is not a comprehensive list.

'2006 Census Tables' (cat no 2068.0) have been available on both ANZSIC 1993 and 2006 basis since October 2007.

'Labour Force, Australia, Detailed Quarterly' (cat no 6291.0.55.003) includes industry estimates on an ANZSIC 2006 basis for labour force quarter months (Aug, Nov, Feb, May) in SuperTABLE datacubes from August 2006. Compilation of ANZSIC 1993 industry employment estimates will cease after release of November 2008 estimates. Backcast data (from November 1984) on an ANZSIC 2006 basis will be available in February 2009.

'Australian System of National Accounts (ANA), 2008-09' (cat no 5204.0) is scheduled to reflect ANZSIC 2006, with release due in November 2009. An information paper outlining table formatting changes as a result of ANZSIC 2006 implementation is scheduled for release in March 2009. An information paper assessing the impact of ANZSIC 2006 implementation on the ANA is scheduled for release in September 2009. ANA publications 5204.0, 5206.0, 5220.0 and 5249.0 will contain backcast time series. 'Australian National Accounts: State Accounts, 2008-09' (cat no 5220.0) is also due for release with ANZSIC 2006 format in November 2009.

'Survey of Employment and Earnings (SEE), Public Sector, 2007-08' (cat no 6248.0.55.001) will use ANZSIC 2006, with release due in January 2009. The SEE public sector quarterly survey ceased after June quarter 2007. This is being replaced with an annual survey commencing with the 2007-08 reference year, to be released on an ANZSIC 2006 basis. The SEE quarterly series will not be backcast.

Information sessions for stakeholders will be conducted in early 2009, before most statistical series will switch over to ANZSIC 2006. Sessions will include what users can expect from each collection, such as how far data will be backcast and the level of detail available. For a comprehensive release schedule of ABS statistics using ANZSIC 2006, refer to chapter 6 of 'Information Paper: Update on ANZSIC 2006 Implementation, Australia, 2008' (cat no 1295.0.55.001, released 20/06/08). For further reference, this chapter also includes ABS contacts for specific collections.

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## **Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURF).**

ABS has about 115 CURFs available, all with catalogue numbers and information on ABS's website. CURFs cost \$1320 each to access, come in basic or expanded formats, and have

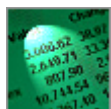
an associated technical manual to describe the survey and record file. CURFs are mainly accessed by universities (about 50% of users) and government departments. Because data is at a unit record level, CURF users commit to protecting confidentiality, and ABS has a vetting procedure prior to granting access.

CURFs are used for a wide range of research including government reports, policy formulation and review, university Ph.D theses, journal articles and conference papers. CURF users in 34 universities participating in the ABS CURF Agreement do not need to pay for CURFs up front, because their university has negotiated access on their behalf.

CURF Microdata Entry Page explains what's available, what's coming soon, how CURFs are accessible, and how to apply for access. To contact ABS about accessing a CURF, email <microdata.access@ABS.gov.au>.

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## Recent releases



### Recent releases

#### Selected recent releases

[Information papers, research papers, and classifications](#)

[Other releases](#)

### Selected releases

#### **1380.0.55.005 Perspectives on Regional Australia: Population Turnover, 2006.**

Released 30/09/2008. First Issue

For the 2006 Census, more than 80% of the usual residents of Melbourne (C) - Inner SLA (excluding age 0-4 years and those who did not state where they lived five years ago) were new arrivals (arrived within the last five years) to the SLA. Most of these arrivals (57.8%) were from overseas. Melbourne (C) - Inner contained a high proportion of rented dwellings (71.0% of occupied private dwellings) and the main (almost the only) type of dwelling was flats, units or apartments (97.8% of occupied private dwellings). The median rent for the SLA was \$305 per week, relatively high compared with the average \$185 per week recorded for Victoria.

Melbourne (C) - Inner had almost double the proportion of lone person households compared to Australia (42.1% and 24.4%, respectively) and a much higher proportion of group households (21.2% compared to 3.9% for Australia). The Melbourne (C) - Inner SLA had a high proportion of young people, with a median age of usual residents of 25 years, compared with 37 years for Australia. Almost one third (32.7%) of residents were attending University or other tertiary institutions compared with 4.1% of residents in Australia. Only 43.4% of SLA usual residents spoke only English at home, compared with 83.2% of people living in Australia.

#### **2050.0 Australian Census Analytic Program: Counting the Homeless, 2006.** Released 04/09/2008

This publication aims to establish the extent of homelessness in Australia in August 2006, using Census data complemented by data from other surveys of youth homelessness and users of support services. It also provides information on the change in size and



composition of the homeless population over time, and draws on earlier research using 1996 and 2001 Census data.

In Victoria during August 2006, the homeless count was estimated at 20,511 people, giving a rate of 42 homeless people per 10,000 population, similar to the 44 per 10,000 rate in 2001.

### **3222.0 Population Projections, Australia, 2006 to 2101.** Released 04/09/2008

The population projections presented in this publication cover the period 30 June 2008 to 2101 for Australia; and 30 June 2008 to 2056 for the states, territories, and capital cities/balance of state. The projections are not predictions or forecasts, but simply illustrations of the growth and change in population which would occur if certain assumptions about future levels of fertility, mortality, internal migration and overseas migration were to prevail over the projection period. The assumptions incorporate recent trends which indicate increasing levels of fertility and net overseas migration for Australia.

Taking the medium level assumptions, Series B projects that by 2056 the population of Victoria will reach 8.5 million people, an increase of 3.3 million people (or 64%) from 30 June 2007.

### **3235.0 Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia, 2007.** Released 19/08/2008.

The estimated resident population of Victoria at 30 June 2007 was 5.20 million people. The Melbourne Statistical Division (SD) was home to about three-quarters (73.1%) of the Victorian population, or 3.81 million people.

The median age (the age at which half the population is older and half is younger) of Victorian residents was 36.1 years for males and 37.7 years for females. Melbourne had the lowest median age (36.1 years) of all Victorian SDs, while the highest were in East Gippsland (43.1 years) and Wimmera (42.8).

The Local Government Areas (LGAs) with the highest median ages were Queenscliffe (B) (53.4 years), Strathbogie (S) (47.5) and Yarriambiack (S) (46.6), all in regional Victoria. LGAs with the lowest median ages were Melbourne (C) (27.9 years), followed by Melton (S) (31.4) and Wyndham (C) (32.5) on Melbourne's growth fringe.

### **3307.0.55.001 Divorces, Australia, 2007.** Released 29/08/2008

In 2007, there were 47,963 divorces granted in Australia, with 49.3% of divorces involving children. The 2007 Australian crude divorce rate was 2.3 per 1,000 estimated resident population, declining from 2.7 in 2003. The median age for males granted divorce was 44.2 years, compared with 41.3 years for females. The median length of marriage to separation was 8.9 years. In Victoria, courts granted 11,833 divorces in 2007.

### **4102.0 Australian Social Trends, 2008.** Released 23/07/2008



'Australian Social Trends' (AST) covers the key areas of: population; family and community; health; education and training; work; economic resources; housing; and other areas of social concern like transport and communication. Most chapters in this edition contain articles with a regional focus.

Australians are now more likely to have broadband or consult a complementary health professional, and took on bigger mortgages as house values rose. In the eight years to 2006-07, internet connections jumped fourfold from 16% to 64% of Australian homes.

The number of people visiting a complementary health professional (most commonly a chiropractor, naturopath or acupuncturist) increased by 51% in the ten years to 2005. Almost 750,000 people had visited this type of professional across Australia in a two week period.

Recent first home buyers' (with a mortgage) average mortgage debt more than doubled in real terms from \$105,400 in 1995-96 to \$212,700 in 2005-06 (average annual increase 7.3%). In Australia during 2005-06, the average value of homes of recent first home buyers with a mortgage was \$310,000. During the 10 years to 2005-06, first home buyers were now less likely to buy a newly built home (14%, down from 23%) and more likely to buy townhouses or apartments (27%, up from 15%).

In 2006, 19% of adults in capital cities (excluding Darwin) used public transport to get to work or education, up from 16% in 1996. Three-quarters used cars as their main form of transport, with another 5% walking or cycling. Sydney (26%) had the highest level of public transport use, while Canberra (8%) had the lowest.

#### **4183.0 Cultural Funding by Government, Australia, 2006-07.** Released 07/08/2008

Total government funding for cultural activities was \$5.6 billion in 2006-07, a rise of 2.6% on the previous year. The Australian Government contributed \$1.9b (33.9%) to total cultural funding, while state and territory governments contributed \$2.6b (46.8%) and local governments \$1.1b (19.3%). Broadcasting and film continues to be the largest recipient of funds, with funding of over \$1.2b (22.1% of total cultural funding) from Commonwealth, State and Territory governments combined.

The Victorian government spent \$559.5m on funding for cultural activities in 2006-07. The Performing arts received substantial funding, with music receiving \$52.9m or 9.5% of Victorian government funding for cultural activities. Film and video also received funding of \$31.3m (5.6%) from the Victorian Government.

#### **4610.0.55.007 Water and the Murray-Darling Basin: a statistical profile, 2000-01 to 2005-06.** Released 15/08/2008. First Issue

The Murray-Darling Basin (MDB) covers 1,059,000 sq km or 14% of Australia's land area. Most of the Basin's area is located in New South Wales (597,926 sq km or 56% of the Basin's area) and Queensland (259,313 sq km or 24%). Victoria accounted for 129,761 sq km (12.3%) of the MDB, which equates to 60% of Victoria's total area. The 2005-06 ABS Agricultural Census found that 84% of MDB land is owned by businesses engaged in agriculture. Modelling by the Bureau of Rural Sciences (BRS) has identified that 67% of the MDB is used for growing crops and pasture. In 2005-06, temperatures recorded in the MDB were up to 2°C hotter than average. In Aug 2006, there were 2,004,560 people living in the MDB, or 10% of Australia's population. Some 38% of Australia's farmers resided in the MDB.

#### **4618.0 Water Use on Australian Farms, 2006-07.** Released 27/08/2008

Australian agricultural water use decreased by 27.1% from 11,689 gigalitres (GL) in 2005-06 to 8,521 GL in 2006-07. This was driven by a decrease in the use of water for irrigation of crops and pastures, primarily rice and cotton. Over the year, total water use by Victoria's 37,429 agricultural businesses declined 31.0% to 1,823 GL in 2006-07. Water to irrigate

pasture for grazing remained the major use of irrigation water in Victoria (902GL, or 55% of the Victoria's irrigation water use), despite declining by 40% from 2005-06.

**4625.0 Farm Management and Climate, 2006-07.** Released 12/09/2008. First Issue

Nationally in 2006-07, 65.6% of agricultural businesses reported that they considered the climate affecting their holding has changed and 62.4% reported that the perceived change in climate had an impact on their holding. Some 49.5% of agricultural businesses reported a change in the management practices on their holding in response to perceived changes in climate. In Victoria, 74.2% of agricultural businesses felt the climate has changed. A decreased level of production was the most commonly reported impact in all states and territories, ranging from 90.3% of businesses reporting an impact in Victoria to 66.4% in the Northern Territory. Queensland and New South Wales (58.5% and 58.0% respectively) reported the largest increase in frequency or extent of pests, weeds or disease on their holding as a result of a perceived change to climate, while Northern Territory reported the lowest (45.8%). Victoria (58.0% of all agricultural businesses) had the highest reported rate of change in management practice in response to climate, and Northern Territory (14.9% of all agricultural businesses) the lowest.

**8106.0 Not-for-profit Organisations, Australia, 2006-07.** Released 05/08/2008. First Issue

In 2006-07, Australia's 40,976 registered not-for-profit organisations received \$74.5 billion. The main recipients of this income were organisations undertaking education and research (22%), social services (16%) and culture and recreation (16%) activities. Religious organisations accounted for 21.3% (8,743) of all not-for-profit organisations, followed by culture and recreation organisations (20%, 8,214). The primary sources of income were funding from federal, state and local government (34%), income from services (29%), and donations, sponsorship and fundraising (9%).

Not-for-profit organisations employed 884,476 people. Social services organisations accounted for 27.2% (240,667 people) of total employees, followed by education and research organisations (24.4% or 216,211 people). Permanent full-time employees accounted for 40.8% (360,850 people) of total employment, followed by permanent part-time 33.5% (296,554 people) and casual employees 25.7% (227,072 people). In addition to paid employees, there were over 2.4 million volunteers during 2006-07.

**8126.0 Information and Communication Technology, Australia, 2006-07.** Released 07/10/2008

The Information and Communication (ICT) Industries Survey collects data on production and distribution of ICT goods and services by businesses in Australia. The latest ICT survey was conducted in respect of 2006-07. A number of improvements have been made to the 2006-07 survey from the previous cycle, including: introduction of ANZSIC 2006 (industry classification), extension of survey scope to include non-employers, and collection of a state and territory split of income from the sale of goods and services.

**8153.0 Internet Activity, Australia, Jun 2008.** Released 22/09/2008

At the end of June quarter 2008, there were 7.23 million subscribers to the internet in Australia: 1.02 million business and government subscribers and 6.21 million household subscribers. There were 5.66 million non dial-up subscribers, or 78% of all internet connections, compared with dial-up subscribers of 1.57 million. Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) continued to be the dominant access technology used for non dial-up subscribers, with 3.94 million, or almost 70% of all non dial-up subscribers. DSL connections increased 6% since December 2007. Wireless technology increased nearly 90% in six months, with

over 809,000 subscribers at end June 2008, compared with 433,000 subscribers at end December 2007. The number of cable, satellite and other non-dial-up technology connections have remained fairly stable. Connections with download speeds of 1.5Mbps or greater increased to 3.10 million or 43% of all subscribers, compared to 2.47 million or 36% of subscribers at end December 2007. Data includes subscriber counts by state and territory, and volume of data downloaded by access technology.

#### **8167.0 Selected Characteristics of Australian Business, 2006-07.** Released 19/09/2008.

This is the third release from the 2006-07 Business Characteristics Survey (BCS) and presents summary data for a selection of topics including: business structure, business performance, business use of information technology, business innovation, business finance, business markets and competition, and barriers to business activities or performance.

#### **8221.0 Manufacturing Industry, Australia, 2006-07.** Released 26/08/2008.

In all but one of eight headline measures, the Australian manufacturing industry showed growth in 2006-07 when compared to 2005-06. Sales and service income increased by 12%, industry value added by 9%, wages and salaries by 7%; although employment declined by 0.2%.

The Australian manufacturing industry incurred \$58.6 billion in total labour costs during 2006-07. Food product manufacturing accounted for \$10.1b (17%), followed by Machinery and equipment manufacturing with \$7.2b (12%). The subdivision showing the largest proportional and absolute increase in wages and salaries was Primary metal and metal product manufacturing (up 14% or \$0.5b).

Overall, \$99b of Industry Value Added was produced by the manufacturing industry in 2006-07, up \$8.0b (9%) on 2005-06. Sales and service income of the Australian manufacturing industry in 2006-07 was \$377.9b, an increase of \$39.8b (or 12%) on 2005-06. At end June 2007, an estimated 1,014,080 persons worked in manufacturing. New South Wales accounted for 29% of sales and service income for all Australian manufacturing, ahead of Victoria (28%), Queensland (19%) and Western Australia (14%).

#### **8415.0 Mining Operations, Australia, 2006-07.** Released 22/07/2008

The Australian mining industry showed significant growth in 2006-07 compared with 2005-06. Sales and service income increased by 17% and industry value added by 22%. The mining industry paid 21% more in wages and salaries than in 2005-06, and its employment rose by 7%.

Between 2005-06 and 2006-07, sales and service income of the selected mining industry (coal mining, oil and gas extraction, metal ore mining and non-metallic mineral mining and quarrying) increased in all states and territories. Western Australia recorded the largest increase, rising \$8.1 billion (20%) to \$48.9b. The largest percentage increase in sales and service income occurred in Tasmania (56%), increasing by \$0.4b to \$1.0b. Northern Territory (40%, or \$1.0b) also showed a large increase.

#### **8679.0 Television, Film and Video Production and Post-Production Services, Australia, 2006-07.** Released 22/07/2008

During 2006-07, commercial television broadcasters generated \$6.8 billion income. Commercial free-to-air television broadcasters generated 66.5% of this total (\$4.5b), with their main source of income the sale of airtime (\$3.6b or 79.7% of total income earned by

these businesses). Subscription fees (\$2.0b or 86.5%) were the main income source for subscription television broadcasters. News, current affairs, sport, light entertainment and variety programs accounted for almost three-quarters (\$986 million) of total costs for productions made primarily for television (\$1,366m) in 2006-07.

Collectively, commercial free-to-air and subscription television broadcasters employed 10,032 people, at end June 2007. The majority (69.6% or 6,980 people) were employed by commercial free-to-air television broadcasters. Permanent full-time employees accounted for 72.9% (5,086 people) of employment by commercial free-to-air television broadcasters. New South Wales accounted for 42.6% (2,970 people) of total employment and 48.7% (\$2.2b) of income for commercial free-to-air television broadcasters. Victoria accounted for 20.5% (1,431 people) of total employment and 21% (\$950.1m) of total income.

### **9208.0 Survey of Motor Vehicle Use, Australia, 12 months ended 31 Oct 2007.**

Released 28/08/2008

This release contains statistics on passenger vehicle, motor cycle, truck and bus use for characteristics such as distance travelled, tonne-kilometres and fuel consumption. The survey measured total distance travelled and tonne-kilometres for each state/territory of registration by type of vehicle.

In the 12 months ended 31 October 2007, there were an estimated 14.8 million vehicles registered in Australia, a four year increase of 1.6 million vehicles (12.1%) on 2003. Motor vehicles registered in Australia travelled an average of 14,600 kilometres per vehicle in the 12 months ended 31 October 2007, while those registered in Victoria (15,100 kilometres) exceeded the average. Victorian registered vehicles travelled a total of 57.9 billion km in 2007. Passenger vehicles (78.0%) made up the largest group of registered vehicles in Australia during 2007, followed by freight vehicles (18.0%). The remainder (4.0%) comprised buses, motor cycles and non-freight carrying trucks. Of the freight vehicles, 82.4% were light commercial vehicles, 14.8% were rigid trucks and 2.8% were articulated trucks. Of the 30,047 million litres of fuel consumed by motor vehicles over 12 months, 62.8% was petrol and 31.2% was diesel.

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## **Information papers, research papers and classifications**

**1216.0 Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), July 2008.** Released 26/09/2008

The ASGC is a hierarchical classification system of geographic areas, and consists of a number of interrelated structures. It provides a common framework of statistical geography that enables the production of statistics which are comparable.

**1216.0.15.001 Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) - Electronic Structures, 01 July 2008.** Released 17/07/2008

This product contains four comma delimited text files showing the levels and hierarchy of ASGC structures: Main Structure, Statistical Region Structure, Statistical District Structure and Local Government Area Structure.

**1216.0.15.002 Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) Concordances, 01 July 2008.** Released 17/07/2008

The product contains four separate concordance files; including CD, SLA and LGA

relationships within the ASGC. These files are comma delimited and include metadata information that shows the file format.

**1234.0 Australian Standard Offence Classification (ASOC), 2008 (Second edition).**  
Released 01/08/2008

This Classification (ASOC) has been developed for use within Australia for the production and analysis of crime and justice statistics. It supersedes the first edition of ASOC (1997). The objective of ASOC is to provide a uniform national statistical framework for classifying criminal behaviour in the production and analysis of crime and justice statistics.

**1254.0.55.001 Australian and New Zealand Standard Product Classification (ANZSPC), 2001.** Ceased.

ABS recently decommissioned the Australian and New Zealand Standard Product Classification (ANZSPC) as the Australian statistical standard for products. The ANZSPC was produced in 2001 as a collaboration between ABS and Statistics New Zealand. The ANZSPC was intended to become the statistical standard for collection and presentation of product statistics in both countries. However, recent reviews of product classifications, focusing on the use of ANZSPC within the ABS, found that:

- ANZSPC has not been adopted widely within the ABS, rather a range of collection-specific classifications have been developed;
- a range of product classifications are required to account for different conceptual bases such as industry of origin, end use and material composition; and
- ANZSPC is no longer internationally comparable given the impending release of Central Product Classification (CPC) V2.0.

ABS plans to adopt the international CPC V2.0 as the overarching framework for product classifications. That is, product classifications used within ABS will concord with CPC V2.0 to at least 3 digit level. The CPC is a multi-purpose classification covering all goods and services, and recent developments to increase the level of detail and comparability with other international standards have positioned it to fulfil the function of an over-arching reference classification for Australia and New Zealand.

**1259.0.30.001 Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) Digital Boundaries (Intercensal), Australia, 2008.** Released 17/07/2008

This product contains digital boundaries current for ASGC Edition 2008 (date of effect 1 July 2008). The digital boundaries are presented in MapInfo Interchange Format and ESRI Shapefile Format, and based on datum GDA94. It includes boundaries of Local Government Areas, Statistical Local Areas, Statistical Divisions, Statistical Subdivisions, States, Statistical Districts, Major Statistical Regions, Statistical Regions and Statistical Region Sectors. These boundaries are intended for import and display in GIS and desktop mapping packages.

**1292.0 Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006 (Revision 1.0).** Released 19/09/2008

This publication provides details of minor revisions to ANZSIC, 2006 (cat no. 1292.0). This is the first revision to the classification since its release in February 2006. ABS and Statistics New Zealand jointly developed this classification to improve the comparability of industry statistics between the two countries and with the rest of the world. This revision is to ensure the classification remains current. With the on-going implementation of ANZSIC 2006,



including its use in statistical collections, some areas of classification required further clarification. Revisions to ANZSIC 2006 are minor; maintaining the scope, concepts and structure. This update concentrates on revision of primary activities to capture new and emerging activities, clarifies class definitions to overcome practical difficulties in implementation, and corrects minor errors and omissions.

See also '**1292.0.55.004** Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification ANZSIC 2006 (Revision 1.0) - Index of Primary Activities, 2006 (Revision 1.0)' (Released 19/09/2008). This Index is an alphabetic list of activities identified in the ANZSIC 2006 publication, with their corresponding ANZSIC (industry) codes.

**4655.0.55.001 Information Paper: What are Environmental Accounts?, 2008.** Released 19/09/2008. First Issue

The notion of accounting for the environment is becoming increasingly popular and the term can be used in a number of ways to mean a variety of things. There has been a shift in policy focus away from considering the economy, society and the environment as separate issues, to a more integrated approach to decision-making. Environmental-Economic Accounts provide a framework for an integrated information system to support this broader policy focus.

**4902.0 Australian Culture and Leisure Classifications, 2008 (Second Edition).** Released 16/07/2008

These classifications are part of an ABS commitment to develop national standards for culture and leisure information. They comprise three separate classifications, covering culture and leisure related industries, products and occupations. They focus on how culture and leisure activities are linked to the economy through direct expenditure and employment.

**5514.0.55.002 Local Government Purpose Classification, 2008.** Released 20/08/2008. First Issue

This classification provides a framework for classifying financial transactions made by local government authorities for general public services, public order, safety, economic affairs, environmental protection, housing, community amenities, health, recreation, culture, religion, education and social protection.

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## **Other releases**

**1006.0 Forward Work Program, 2008-09.** Released 18/07/2008

**1352.0.55.096 - Research Paper: Sample Design Issues for National Surveys of the Indigenous Population (Methodology Advisory Committee), Jun 2008.** Released 04/09/2008. First Issue

**2069.0.30.007 Census of Population and Housing: Estimated Resident Population Profile Datapack, 2006.** Released 28/08/2008. First Issue

**3105.0.65.001 Australian Historical Population Statistics, 2008.** Released 05/08/2008

**3416.0 Perspectives on Migrants, 2008.** Released 20/08/2008

**4445.0 People with a Need for Assistance - A Snapshot, 2006.** Released 05/08/2008.

First Issue

**4510.0 Recorded Crime - Victims, Australia, 2007.** Released 26/06/2008

**4528.0 Personal Fraud, 2007.** Released 27/06/2008

**4837.0.55.001 Health of Mature Age Workers in Australia: A Snapshot, 2004-05.**  
Released 29/07/2008. First Issue

**5352.0 International Investment Position, Australia: Supplementary Statistics, 2007.**  
Released 30/07/2008

**5501.0.55.001 Government Financial Estimates, Australia, 2008-09.** Released  
26/08/2008

**6224.0.55.001 Labour Force, Australia: Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics  
of Families - Electronic Delivery, Jun 2008.** Released 17/07/2008. Reissue

**6269.0 Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Sample Design, Nov 2007 (Second  
edition).** Released 25/07/2008

**6463.0 Analytical Living Cost Indexes for Selected Australian Household Types, Jun  
2008.** Released 27/08/2008

**7104.0.55.001 Agriculture in Focus: Farming Families, Australia, 2006.** Released  
12/08/2008. First Issue

**7123.2.55.001 Agricultural State Profile, Victoria, 2006-07.** Released 22/08/2008

**7503.0 Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, 2006-07.** Released  
31/07/2008

**8109.0 Research and Experimental Development, Government and Private Non-Profit  
Organisations, Australia, 2006-07.** Released 29/07/2008

**8127.0 Australian Small Business Operators - Findings from the 2005 and 2006  
Characteristics of Small Business Surveys, 2005-06.** Released 06/08/2008

**8155.0 Australian Industry, 2006-07.** Released 08/10/2008

**8158.0 Innovation in Australian Business, 2006-07.** Released 22/08/2008

**8175.0 Counts of Australian Business Operators, 2006 to 2007.** Released  
01/10/2008. First Issue

**8226.0 Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services, Australia, 2006-07.** Released  
09/07/2008

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## **ABS Statistical training and information seminars**

**ABS Statistical training and information seminars**

## **What Statistical training courses are available at ABS Victoria?**

Venue: ABS Victorian Office, 485 La Trobe Street, Melbourne.

- Turning Data Into Information (TDII)
- Basic Survey Design (BSD)
- Understanding Demographic Data (UDD)
- Making Quality Informed Decisions (MQID)
- Analysing Survey Data Made Simple (ASDMS)
- Introduction to Labour Statistics (ILS)

We also offer free less formal training with:

- 2006 Census Information Sessions
- Teacher Librarian Information Session

### **Turning Data Into Information (TDII)**

This course develops skills in interpreting, displaying and communicating data clearly and effectively. Analytical thinking skills are developed to enable the transformation of data into meaningful written information.

Length: 2 days

Fee: \$750.00

2008 Course Dates: 15 & 16 October

2009 Course Dates: 13 & 20 May, 7 & 13 October

### **Basic Survey Design (BSD)**

This course aims to provide a broad overview of all facets of survey development. Topics include developing survey objectives, advantages and disadvantages of various collection methodologies, questionnaire design, data processing, reporting of results and management of the design process.

Length: 2 days

Fee: \$750.00

2008 Course Dates: 26 & 27 November

2009 Course Dates: 8 & 9 July, 24 & 25 November

### **Understanding Demographic Data (UDD)**

This one-day course introduces participants to demographic data in an international and Australian context. Participants will explore the components of population change (births, deaths, migration) and understand population estimates at the national, state and small area level. At the completion of this course participants will:

- have an understanding of demographic concepts and current issues,
- understand the basic methods of analysing demographic data; and
- be able to access appropriate demographic data on the ABS website.

This course is designed for people who use and/or need to understand demographic data to formulate policies and programs.

Length: 1 day

Fee: \$450.00

2008 Course Dates: 21 & 22 October  
2009 Course Dates: 18 March, 7 May

### **Making Quality Informed Decisions (MQID)**

This course introduces the concept of 'holistic quality' through the use of a data quality framework for a statistical collection. The framework ensures that users of statistics are able to assess whether the statistics are fit for their intended use. This course aims to provide a framework to evaluate the quality of available data sources and use this knowledge in the decision-making process.

Length: 1 day  
Fee: \$450.00  
2009 Course Dates: 3 March, 13 August

### **Analysing Survey Data Made Simple (ASDMS)**

This computer based course develops practical skills in summarising and displaying survey data in graphical and tabular form. It provides the tools for finding simple relationships in survey data and testing for statistically significant differences in past and current survey results.

Length: 2 days  
Fee: \$750.00  
2009 Course Dates: 1 & 2 April, 2 & 3 September

### **Introduction to Labour Statistics (ILS)**

This course provides an overview of the range of concepts and issues associated with ABS labour statistics. It explores the data produced by both household and employer based collections, and highlights the range of products available to access labour-related data.

Length: 1 day  
Fee: \$450.00  
2009 Course Dates: 7 May

**For further information** on ABS statistical training go to the ABS website <[www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au)>. Select 'Services' then ABS Training. For courses listed above, Alan Page (03 9615 7899) is ABS Victoria's training contact officer, or email queries/registrations to <[victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au](mailto:victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au)>.

The two sessions below have their own contacts.

### **Free 2006 Census Information Sessions**

Information sessions run for State and Local Government, will showcase 2006 Census products available free of charge on the ABS Website and present a case study using free Census data. A C-Data Online demonstration is included in the 11 Nov 2008 and later sessions.

Length: 2 hours  
Fee: free  
2008 Dates:

2.00-4.00 pm Thrs 23 Oct 2008  
2.00-4.00 pm Tues 11 Nov 2008  
2.00-4.00 pm Tues 2 Dec 2008  
2.00-4.00 pm Tues 9 Dec 2008

2009 Date:

2.00-4.00 pm Tues 20 Jan 2009

To reserve a Census Information place, please email <vic.client.services@abs.gov.au>, nominating which session you would like to attend, your name, organisation, contact phone number and email address. Please ring Heather Burns on 9615 7535 if you have any queries about the 2006 Census Information Sessions, or would like to arrange a session in your own Victorian or Commonwealth agency.

### **Free Teacher Librarian Information Session**

This free hands-on internet workshop will show you how to quickly access up-to-date information from the ABS website for many subject areas and year levels. As well, you'll discover the many on-line products and resources developed especially for teachers. Teacher-Librarians can RSVP to Gai Mooney to secure a place.

Time: 9:30am-3:30pm, 28 October, 2008

Contact: Gai Mooney, ph 03 9615 7530; email <education@abs.gov.au>.

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## **Points of contact**

### **POINTS OF CONTACT**

#### **ABS VICTORIAN OFFICE**

There is an ABS office in every capital city. The Victorian ABS Office is located on Level 5, South Tower, 485 LaTrobe Street, Melbourne. To email the Regional Director or Statistical Coordination contacts listed below use <victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

#### **Postal address**

GPO Box 2796Y  
Melbourne Vic 3001

#### **Regional Director**

ABS Victoria  
Carl Obst  
(03) 9615 7330

### **STATISTICAL COORDINATION CONTACTS**

Director  
Marie Apostolou  
(03) 9615 7500

Assistant Directors - Victorian Government Servicing  
Antonella Caruso  
(03) 9615 7860

Pam Boulton  
(03) 9615 7880

Assistant Director - Economic & Regional Statistics  
James Darragh  
(03) 9615 7049

Assistant Director - Social Statistics  
Fiona Shalley  
(03) 9615 7510

## **NATIONAL INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICE**

The National Information and Referral Service (NIRS) is the first point of contact for all your statistical and publication enquiries.

Phone: 1300 135 070  
Fax: 1300 135 211  
Email: <client.services@abs.gov.au>

## **LIBRARY EXTENSION PROGRAM**

Libraries play a unique role in providing information to their communities and are a valuable source of ABS statistics. The Library Extension Program is a partnership between ABS and a nation-wide network of over 500 participating libraries.

## **STATISTICS VICTORIA EDITOR**

Alan Page  
(03) 9615 7899  
<victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au>

## **VICTORIAN STATISTICS ADVISORY FORUM (VSAF)**

VSAF is a major forum for statistical liaison between Victorian government agencies and ABS. The following group of departmental representatives meet 3 times each year.

### **VSAF Chair**

**Department of Treasury and Finance**  
Vin Martin

**Department of Treasury and Finance**  
Peter Fuhrmann

**Department of Premier and Cabinet**  
Frank Maas (a/g)

**Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development**



Chris West

**Department of Education and Early Childhood Development**

Dr Sara Glover

**Department of Human Services**

Dr Connie Spinoso

**Department of Justice**

John Lang

**Department of Transport**

Philip Norman

**Department of Planning and Community Development**

Alison McClelland

**Department of Sustainability and Environment**

Elizabeth Thomas

**Department of Primary Industries**

Bill Fisher

**ABS Victoria**

Carl Obst

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## About this Release

Statistics Victoria is a quarterly newsletter primarily targetted to Victorian state and local government users providing information about new developments, recent statistical releases, seminars, training and reviews.

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